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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/805,944	03/22/2004	Andreu P. Meckler	LEEE 2 00382	1047
27885	7590	12/15/2005	EXAMINER	
FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN, MINNICH & MCKEE, LLP 1100 SUPERIOR AVENUE, SEVENTH FLOOR CLEVELAND, OH 44114			SHAW, CLIFFORD C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

1725

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/805,944

Applicant(s)

MECKLER, ANDREU P.

Examiner

Clifford C. Shaw

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 May 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

Detailed Action

1.) The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.) Claims 1-8, 13-15, 17-19, 23, 24, 27, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ihde et al. (2004/0245232). The pre-grant publication to Ihde et al. (2004/0245232) discloses a wire feeder and a method of attaching a wire feeder to an arc welder with features claimed, including: a wire feeder as shown at element 20 in figure 1; and a power conditioner as shown in figures 2 and 3, this power conditioner operating to provide power to the wire feeder when the arc voltage is low. The claims differ from the teachings of Ihde et al. (2004/0245232) in calling for calling for powering the wire feeder when the electrical inputs to the same are “incompatible to power” the welding wire motor. This difference does not patentably distinguish over the prior art. It is considered obvious that the low voltage condition that power conditioner in the pre-grant publication to Ihde et al. (2004/0245232) deals with is in some sense “incompatible” with powering the welding wire motor because this low voltage condition is not compatible with a desired operation of the unit, thereby satisfying the claims.

3.) Claims 9-12, 16, 20-22, 25, 26, 28-30, and 32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ihde et al. (2004/0245232) as applied to claims 1-8, 13-15, 17-19, 23,

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24, 27, and 31 above, and further in view of Martin (4,973,821). The only aspects of the claims to which the rejection above does not apply are the provisions for: a control signal between the arc welder and the wire feeder and limitations directed to selecting a speed of the motor. These differences do not patentably distinguish over the prior art. At the time applicant's invention was made, it would have been obvious to have provided the system of Ihde et al. (2004/0245232) with the features claimed, the motivation being the teachings of Martin (4,973,821) that such are advantageous for an arc welding wire feeder (see the control lines 12 and 16 between power supply 14 and wire feeder 18 in figure 1 and note the wire feed speed control as shown at element 40 in figure 3 of Martin (4,973,821)).

4.) The patent to Tremblay et al. (4,584,458) is cited to show a prior art wire feeder connectable to an arc welding power supply and further having power conditioning circuitry.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Clifford C Shaw at telephone number 571-272-1182. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday of the first week of the pay period and on Tuesday through Friday of the second week of the pay period.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Thomas G. Dunn, can be reached at 571-272-1171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Clifford C Shaw
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1725

December 12, 2005